

Boucher	Holt	Owens
Boyd	Honda	Pallone
Brady (PA)	Hooley	Pascarell
Brown (OH)	Hoyer	Pastor
Brown, Corrine	Inslee	Payne
Butterfield	Israel	Pelosi
Capps	Jackson (IL)	Peterson (MN)
Capuano	Jackson-Lee	Pomeroy
Cardin	(TX)	Price (NC)
Cardoza	Jefferson	Rahall
Carnahan	Johnson, E. B.	Rangel
Carson	Jones (OH)	Reyes
Case	Kanjorski	Ross
Chandler	Kaptur	Rothman
Clay	Kildee	Roybal-Allard
Cleaver	Kilpatrick (MI)	Ruppersberger
Clyburn	Kind	Rush
Conyers	Kucinich	Ryan (OH)
Cooper	Langevin	Sabo
Costa	Lantos	Salazar
Costello	Larsen (WA)	Sánchez, Linda
Cramer	Lee	T.
Crowley	Levin	Sánchez, Loretta
Cuellar	Lipinski	Schakowsky
Cummings	Lofgren, Zoe	Schiff
Davis (AL)	Lowey	Schwartz (PA)
Davis (CA)	Lynch	Scott (GA)
Davis (IL)	Maloney	Scott (VA)
Davis (TN)	Markey	Serrano
DeFazio	Marshall	Sherman
DeGette	Matheson	Skelton
Delahunt	Matsui	Slaughter
DeLauro	McCarthy	Snyder
Dicks	McCollum (MN)	Solis
Dingell	McDermott	Spratt
Doggett	McGovern	Tanner
Doyle	McIntyre	Tauscher
Edwards	McKinney	Taylor (MS)
Emanuel	McNulty	Thompson (CA)
Engel	Meehan	Thompson (MS)
Eshoo	Meek (FL)	Tierney
Etheridge	Meeks (NY)	Towns
Farr	Melancon	Udall (CO)
Filner	Michaud	Udall (NM)
Ford	Millender	Van Hollen
Frank (MA)	McDonald	Velázquez
Gonzalez	Miller (NC)	Visclosky
Gordon	Miller, George	Wasserman
Green, Al	Mollohan	Schultz
Green, Gene	Moore (KS)	Waters
Grijalva	Moore (WI)	Watson
Gutierrez	Murtha	Watt
Harman	Nadler	Waxman
Hastings (FL)	Napolitano	Weiner
Hereth	Neal (MA)	Wexler
Higgins	Oberstar	Woolsey
Hinchey	Obey	Wu
Hinojosa	Olver	Wynn
Holden	Ortiz	

NOT VOTING—29

Andrews	Gohmert	Reynolds
Beauprez	Kennedy (RI)	Sanders
Bishop (GA)	Larson (CT)	Schmidt
Bonner	Lewis (GA)	Smith (WA)
Cubin	Manzullo	Stark
Davis (FL)	McCrery	Strickland
Davis (KY)	Moran (VA)	Stupak
English (PA)	Musgrave	Thomas
Evans	Pearce	Young (AK)
Fattah	Platts	

□ 1043

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I was unavoidably detained and missed two rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 173, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 821, the Rule for H.R. 5385; and "aye" on rollcall vote No. 174, On Adoption of the Rule for H.R. 5385.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 193. An act to increase the penalties for violations by television and radio broadcasters of the prohibitions against transmission of obscene, indecent, and profane language.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to the text of the bill (H.R. 1499) "An Act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow members of the Armed Forces serving in a combat zone to make contributions to their individual retirement plans even if the compensation on which such contribution is based is excluded from gross income, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1928a–1928d of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators to the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress:

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD).

The Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS).

The Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH).

The Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN).

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1928a–1928d of title 22, United States Code, as amended, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senators as members of the Senate Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, during the 109th Congress:

The Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY).

The Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5385, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

□ 1045

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Pursuant to House Resolu-

tion 821 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 5385.

□ 1045

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 5385) making appropriations for the military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes, with Mr. SHIMKUS in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. WALSH) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, today I am proud to present the Fiscal Year 2007 Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for consideration of the House.

The Appropriations Committee has dedicated to providing a suitable quality of life for our servicemen and women from recruitment through retirement. I believe this bill is fiscally responsible, while improving the quality of life for our all-volunteer force throughout their military careers and beyond. It also builds upon initiatives begun last year to get the Defense Department and the Department of Veterans Affairs to be more cooperative and expand synergies that exist between them.

The bill totals \$136.1 billion. It stays within our discretionary allocation of \$94.7 billion, which is \$824 million below the budget request. But, more importantly, the bill is \$8.5 billion over last year's level after adjusting VA medical services for contingency funding.

The increases above last year are in four areas: veterans medical care, active duty military medical care, housing allowances for military families, and the first year of major construction for the new BRAC round recommendations.

Mr. Chairman, the bill continues to improve military health care and recommends \$21 billion for fiscal year 2007 for the defense health program. This is a sizeable increase of \$1 billion above last year's level and represents more than a 40 percent increase in this budget since fiscal year 2003.

For veterans medical care, the bill recommends \$25.4 billion, a \$2.9 billion increase, or 12.7 percent, over last year's level. This program has increased \$7.6 billion, or 43 percent, since